GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7364
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002
PCR SYSTEM FOR HIV/AIDS
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to procure the PCR system for HIV/AIDS patients;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representation from various organizations to make PCR system available in the Hospitals of State particularly in Mumbai;

(d) if so, the decision of the Government thereto;

(e) the benefit, HIV/AIDS patients would have due to this system; and

(f) the time by which this project is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. In addition to the Polymerized Chain Reaction (PCR) system already available at four centres viz. NARI Pune NICED Kolkata, AIIMS New Delhi and NICD Delhi, Government have decided to procure eleven more such systems for eleve centres.

(c) : Yes. Sir. Shri Kirit Somaitya, M.P. had written to HFM requesting for early procurement and supply of these systems to Mumbai.

(d) : Government is re-tendering for procurement of the eleven PCR system as none of the bids earlier received in response to first tender were found to be responsive.

(e) : This will be of limited benefit to the HIV patients as it can detect HIV infection during window period only as also in the children born to HIV infected mothers. It can also be used in doubtful case of HIV for confirmation.

(f) : It is the endeavor of the Government to expedite the procedure for procurement of the system.